long tue Designated Courts^ which are Judicial Bodies, will take to dispose off these cases.

Death centenary of Bankim Chandra Chatterji

1219. SHRI K. R. MALKANI : WiU the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the death centenary of Bankim Chandra Chalterji author of 'Vande Matram' falls this year,

(b) whether Government are Planning to observe it on a nation-wide scale; and

(c) whether Government would consider constituting an All Party Celebrations Committee for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House,

Presence of Foreign Intelligence Agencies In India!

1220. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer/ to starred Question 40 given in the Rajya Sabha on 23rd February, 1994 and state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are aware of the presence of some) foreign intelligence agncies and mercenaries other than Pakistan's ISI operating in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to root out the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RATESH PILOT): (a) and (b) Evidence of foreign mercenaries aiding and abetting terrorism in certain parts of the country has come to the notice of the Government. Government is alert and vigilant against the activities and designs of foreign mercenaries and other agencies. It will not be in public interest to disclose further details in this regard.

(c) Government is taking all necessary steps to combat and frustrate such objectives by gearing up the intelligence machinery, sharing: of intelligence and coordinated action by the concerned Central and State agencies, strengthening the deployment of para-military forces at strategic locations, intensified coastal as well as inland patrolling, construction of border fencing and flood-lighting in vulnerable sectors at the borders. Steps to check infiltration/exfilteration have been intensified.

Declaration of distrubed area

1221. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA; Will the Minister Of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the areas in the country which have been declared as disturbed areas and their statewise and district-wise break-up and since when.

(b) whether there are some criteria or specific guidelines for declaring an area as disturbed area, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the gravity of the situ ation in Doda warrants that it should be declared as disturbed area, if not the , reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) The principal criteria for declaring any area as 'Disturbed Area' is deterioration of law and order situation in that area. :' As per information available, the following areas are declared as disturbed areas